

1. (Currently Amended) Device for optically capturing objects, comprising
 - a support surface (1) on ~~which~~ whose first side an object can be placed,
 - a light source (4) which is provided for emitting illuminating beams (2, 3) in the direction of the support surface (1) and which, in a first position, is arranged relative to the support surface (1), and
 - a capturing means (5) which is provided for capturing the ~~positioned~~ object placed on the support surface (2) - and optionally for converting the image of the captured object into electrical signals - and which, in a second position, is arranged relative to the support surface (1),
wherein the first side of the support surface (1), on which the object can be placed, faces the illuminating beams (2, 3) and the capturing means (5) ,characterized in that the first side of the support surface (1) has a flat region (16) and – adjacent to this - a section (6) which is provided with a curvature determined by the two positions and which is arranged in such a way that the illuminating beams (3) are reflected by the section (6) in the direction of the capturing means substantially only in a diffuse manner.
2. (Currently Amended) Device for optically capturing objects according to Claim 1, characterized in that the section (6) has a curvature only in the direction of the ~~connecting line between the light source (4) and the capturing means (5).~~
3. (Currently Amended) Device for optically capturing objects according to Claim 1, characterized in that the curvature corresponds – in perpendicular cross-section – to a segment of a conic section (20).

4. (Previously Presented) Device for optically capturing objects according to Claim 1, characterized in that a back-lit, discrete slide capturing region (7) having a mechanical, point-discrete positioning aid (8) for the accurate positioning of at least one first slide (9) is coordinated with the support surface (1).
5. (Original) Device for optically capturing objects according to Claim 4, characterized in that a back-lit preview region (10) is provided which is adjacent to the slide capturing region (7) and with which a mechanical, line-discrete positioning aid (11) for positioning at least one further slide (12) on a line is coordinated.
6. (Previously Presented) Device for optically capturing objects according to Claim 4, characterized in that the capturing means (5) is rotatable relative to the support surface (1), and the capturing means (5) can be repetitively oriented with the discrete slide capturing region (7) by means of a locking element.